

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.     A backup processing method for backing up data to be used by a data-  
2 processing computer system, the method comprising the steps of:  
3                   selecting resources in a usable state from a plurality of resources necessary for  
4 backing up data, the data to be used by the data-processing computer system;  
5                   selecting switches in a usable state from a plurality of switches necessary for  
6 forming routes among the selected resources;  
7                   determining which of the selected resources and selected routes are secure;  
8 and  
9                   executing backup processing by using secured resources and routes when the  
10 resources and routes necessary for backing up data to be used in data processing by the  
11 computer system are secured, to thereby form a plurality of backup subsystems by the  
12 selection.

1                   2.     A backup processing method according to claim 1, wherein backup  
2 processing is executed by using the plurality of resources and routes so secured, and when the  
3 backup processing has been successfully executed by at least one subsystem, regarding the  
4 backup processing as successful.

1                   3.     A backup processing method according to claim 1, wherein data is  
2 attempted to be backed up by at least one subsystem of the secured plurality of resources and  
3 routes, and if a problem occurs during the backup processing, continuing the backup  
4 processing using other resources and routes.

1                   4.     A backup processing method according to claim 3, wherein the backup  
2 processing includes a step of executing a backup instruction command, and wherein a  
3 problem in backup processing is detected by a result of the execution of the backup  
4 instruction command.

1                   5.     A backup processing method according to claim 4, wherein data to be  
2 backed up is processed by being copied at least two times in response to the backup  
3 instruction command.

1                   6.     A backup processing method according to claim 2, further including a  
2 step of storing information relating to the backup processing of the backed-up data.

1                   7.     A backup processing method according to claim 2, further including a  
2 step of storing information relating to whether the backup processing of the backed-up data  
3 was successfully executed.

1                   8.     A backup processing method according to claim 7, wherein data stored  
2 relating to the successful execution of the backup processing is used to determine if the data  
3 can be restored.

1                   9.     A backup processing system for backing up data to be used by a data-  
2 processing computer system, the system comprising:

3                   a resource selection processor for selecting resources in a usable state from a  
4 plurality of resources necessary for the backup of data ;

5                   a route selection processor for selecting switches in a usable state from a  
6 plurality of switches to form routes among the selected resources; and

7                   a backup processor for executing backup processes using the selected  
8 resources and the selected routes necessary for backing up data, giving preference to those  
9 resources and routes which are secured.

1                   10.    A program having a computer function as a backup processing system  
2 for backing up data to be used by a data-processing computer system, the program  
3 comprising:

4                   a resource selection processor portion for selecting resources in a usable state  
5 from a plurality of resources necessary for the backup of data to be used in data processing by  
6 the computer;

7                   a route selection processor portion for selecting switches in a usable state from  
8 a plurality of switches for forming routes among the selected resources; and

9                   a backup processor portion for executing backup processing by using the  
10 selected resources and routes when the resources and routes necessary for backing up data to  
11 be used in data processing by the computer are secure to thereby form a plurality of backup  
12 subsystems.